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REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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SOURCE Flamuri i Liris.

AIMS, PROGRAM, 1952 MEETING OF LEAGUE  
 OF ALBANIAN POLITICAL REFUGEES IN YUGOSLAVIA

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.

An editorial in Flamuri i Liris, discussing the duty of Albanian emigres and the aims of the League of Albanian Political Refugees in Yugoslavia, made the following statements: A large number of Albanians have sought refuge in different countries, but especially in Yugoslavia. They have formed various organizations and parties. The League of Albanian Political Refugees in Yugoslavia does not deny nor doubt that the majority of these men desire the welfare and interest of Albania. However, it must be recalled that efforts in behalf of Albania are not the monopoly of one group or one side, but the compulsory duty of all Albanians, wherever they may be and of whatever political tendency.

On the basis of this principle, the editorial continued, Albanians everywhere have the patriotic duty, at least while in exile, of coming to an understanding among themselves, leaving aside personal, party, or group interests, and not entering into useless conflicts when they know well that this will not serve the cause of Albania.

The editorial declared that it was clearly stated at the time the league was formed that no parties or factions would be tolerated within it, and added that the league had adopted a broad program for unity, with only one aim -- the liberation of Albania.(1)

The four points of the league's program, published in the first issue of Flamuri i Liris on 10 December 1951, were as follows: (a) war against Enver Hoxha and his clique, and war against political and economic domination of Albania by the USSR; (b) war against all foreign dominators and against all traitors who would sell Albania to foreigners; (c) union of all forces in Albania and in exile to fight for a truly free, republican, independent, undivided, and democratic Albania; (d) friendship with all states which respect the independence of Yugoslavia, and, primarily, friendship with Yugoslavia, the most sincere friend of Albania.(2)

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The June 1952 issue of Flamuri i Liris carried a report on the second annual conference of the league, held in Prizren on 31 May and 1 June 1952 with Dushan Mugoshi /sometimes spelled Mugosa/ and Apostol Tanefi, chairman of the league, among the principal speakers. The paper described the speeches as follows:

Mugoshi charged that Italians, Greeks, and others of the West are attempting to subjugate, break up, and enslave Albania. He pointed out that Yugoslav policy toward the Albanian people is one of friendship and brotherhood. Mugoshi invited the Albanian emigres in Yugoslavia to continue their war against Hoxha and Shehu for a free Albania.

Apostol Tanefi charged that, in addition to the thousands of Soviet agents in Albania, Bulgarian instructors are also arriving in Albania to exploit the nation's wealth for the USSR. An Albanian white-collar worker, he said, receives a salary of 2,000-3,500 leks per month, while Soviet and Bulgarian workers receive 15,000-20,000 leks per month. An Albanian officer with the rank of major receives 5,000 leks per month, whereas a Bulgarian or Soviet instructor receives 25,000-30,000 leks per month. Taxes collected from the Albanian people support these foreigners, he asserted.

Tanefi called for unity of all Albanian political emigres in Yugoslavia to fight for a democratic, republican, independent Albania.

Another speaker, emigre Ndue Pjetri, defended the league against accusations by certain Albanian emigre groups that the members of the league are traitors to Albania since they have sold out to Yugoslavia. He stated that this was not true, that Yugoslavia is a friend of Albania and does not attempt to assault the liberty of any people.

A new league council of 40 members was elected at the same meeting, according to Flamuri i Liris. Eleven members of this council constitute the executive committee, with Apostol Tanefi as chairman and Hajrullah Ishmi as secretary. A seven-member council of inspectors was also elected.(3)

## SOURCES

1. Pristina, Flamuri i Liris, Aug-Sep 52
2. Ibid, 10 Dec 51
3. Ibid, Jun 52

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